

Working with Police and Crime Panels to deliver the PCP project  
**Findings from the survey on allowances of November 2017**

## 1. Summary

Requests had been made to Frontline Consulting to organise a survey of PCPs to help Panels to benchmark the payment of allowances. We circulated a survey to PCP support officers in November 2017. We advised that we would not publish individual returns, but only a summary of the payments that are made.

The response rate to the survey was a pleasing 80% (33 replies). It should be noted that not all seven questions were answered; some were not applicable to all Panels.

Thank you to all who responded to the survey.

## 2. The survey – questions and summary of responses

### **Question 1 - Is the Chair of your PCP paid a Special Responsibility Allowance?**

This question received a 100% response. 18% of respondents (6) answered 'yes'.

### **Question 2 – If you answered 'Yes', how much is the allowance?**

Four of the six respondents who pay an allowance to their Chair provided details.

The figures per annum ranged from £2,750 to £5,808 with the other payments being £4,749 and £5,050.

One of the four pays an SRA to the Chair who is the representative from their council. If a representative of any of the other member authorities was appointed as the Chair, then her/his authority would have to decide if an SRA was payable.

### **Question 3 – How much are elected members on your PCP paid per annum if at all?**

This question received a 66% response rate. Of the 22 replies, 14 do not pay an allowance.

Of the remaining eight responses:

- 4 Panels pay expenses (with two of these being capped)
- 1 Panel pays a flat rate per meeting, rather than an SRA
- 1 Panel is due to pay members £1,000 from May 2018
- 1 Panel pays their Vice-Chair an SRA of £3,096.96
- 1 Panel pays their two Vice-Chairs an SRA of £1,583 each

**Question 4 – How much are independent members on your PCP paid per annum?**

This question received a 75% response rate. Of the 25 replies, 12 stated they pay nothing.

Of the remaining 13 replies, it was a varied picture:

- 4 Panels pay expenses
- 6 pay a flat rate: 2 at £1,000, 1 at £920, 1 at £750, 1 at £675 and 1 at £500
- 1 pays a flat rate of £184 per meeting with a cap of £920 (five meetings)
- 1 pays a flat rate of £99 per half day meeting, capped at seven meetings
- 1 was unclear

**Question 5 – Are your PCP allowances paid out of the Home Office grant or by the constituent councils?**

Of the 16 replies received to this question, only one constituent authority pays their allowances from their own budget. All others use the Home Office grant.

**Question 6 – Do you pay travel and subsistence expenses separate from the allowance?**

This question received a response rate of 73%. Of the 24 replies, only seven do not pay travel and subsistence separate from the allowances.

**Question 7 – If so, for what are these payments made?**

This was a follow up question to question 6. The response rate dipped to just over 57%. 18 replies variously reported:

- Travel eg rail fares, mileage to meetings, parking (16 Panels)
- Cost of external events eg conferences (4)
- Travel and subsistence claims only for independent Members (2 Panels)
- Reasonable expenses arising from participation in Panel activities (1)
- Training events as authorised by the Lead Officer (1)
- Travel and care allowances, as per council scheme (1)
- Subsistence at normal local authority rates (1)
- Members may claim back travel expenses from their own Authorities (1)
- Lunch if a meeting overruns (1)
- Each constituent authority pays their representatives travel, if claimed; the host authority covers the independent members (1)